



86
1/8/03
31/5

Docket No.: 826.1431

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Hiroshi HARUKI, et al.

Serial No. 08/971,903

Group Art Unit: 3622

Confirmation No. 4920

Filed: November 17, 1997

Examiner: J. Myhre

For: COMPUTER-RELATED PRODUCT USER MANAGEMENT AND SERVICE SYSTEM

RECEIVED

JAN 03 2003

GROUP 3600

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

~~AMEND~~ Please AMEND the pending claims 1, 10-16, 18 and 19 in accordance with the following:

1. (SEVEN TIMES AMENDED) A computer implemented management system, which manages registration of computer-related products, including hardware and software products, comprising:

a user information general management means, generally managing user registration information, about users of hardware and software products, and using status information thereof transmitted from the user; and

a user registration/reference means that interfaces with the users notifying said user information general management means of the user registration information and the using status information at a request of the user and the using status information,

wherein the user registration information comprises personal information about each user containing an identification number of each user and registration information containing a type of information which is requested by the users with regard to the computer-related products, said type of information can include information about products which can be used in combination with products that are used by the users and available from a plurality of vendors,